

Health Homes Herald

April, 2015

Volume 2, Issue 7

Helping people live healthier lives by integrating and coordinating services and supports to treat the “whole-person” across the lifespan.

Listening Tour for Contracted SMI Health Homes

If you are a Health Home Partner (HHP) who is contracted to provide services for SMI Health Homes, KDHE would like to invite you to attend a HHP Listening Meeting where we will share some data and information with HHP staff and ask some specific questions of you.

MCO staff will not attend because the focus of the meeting is not to solve individual billing or contracting issues with the MCOs. KDADS mental health field staff may attend some of the meetings to learn about how the Health Homes program is working.

Meetings will last two hours and can be attended by multiple staff from your agency, but we do ask that you **RSVP to Carol Arace at 785-296-4753 or carace@kdheks.gov by April 13**, so our host sites can know how many attendees to prepare for. Space is limited at some of the meetings, so if you have a number of staff who would like to attend, we suggest you consider splitting them up between meeting locations.

Please remember: Even if you are hosting a Listening meeting, we still need you to register.

The meetings will be held **April 20-22 and May 12** at the following locations:

April 20	Leavenworth	Hiawatha	Pittsburg	Manhattan	Salina	Parsons	Liberal
April 21	Independence	Topeka	Chanute	Lawrence	Hutchinson	Great Bend	Dodge City
April 22	Ottawa	Eldorado	Emporia	Hays	Wichita	Newton	
May 12	Mission	Kansas City					

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Upcoming News and Events

- Listening Tour — **April 20-22nd & May 12th**
- Learning Collaborative Webcast — **April 7th at 3:00pm**

Questions?

Email: healthhomes@kdheks.gov



Consumers' Frequently Asked Questions

Will there be a Listening Tour for Consumers?

Right now, we do not have plans for Consumer Listening Tour. However, we are always eager to talk with members and answer their questions about Health Homes. You may call the State Health Homes team or your MCO to find out more about Health Homes.

If you have questions about Health Homes please contact Samantha Ferencik:

Phone : 785-296-8001

Email: sferencik@kdheks.gov

Million Hearts: Resources for Health Home Partners and Members

As SMI Health Homes continue to work with our members in Kansas, we are constantly looking for useful tips and resources to share with our Health Home Partners. Given the health demographics of our SMI members, we know that tobacco use, heart disease and stroke are high-priority issues that require immediate attention. We have found the resources available on the Million Hearts ® website to be useful and hope that you will as well.

Blood pressure control is critical to preventing heart attacks and strokes. The Million Hearts ® *Make Control Your Goal Blood Pressure Toolkit* was designed to help health care professionals address high blood pressure in their practice and provide resources to support their clients. Million Hearts ® toolkits can be used in your everyday work to enhance your heart disease and stroke prevention efforts. They are available for download and use as individual components or as an entire toolkit.

English and Spanish materials are available and we encourage HHPs to visit the Million Hearts® website for the *Toolkit* as well as other helpful resources:

<http://millionhearts.hhs.gov/resources/toolkits.html#partnersToolkit>

If you know of valuable resources that could help your fellow Health Home Partners better serve our members, we hope that you will share these resources with us. If you find that you need additional resources to better serve your members please contact

Samantha Ferencik:

Phone : 785-296-8001

Email: sferencik@kdheks.gov



Update from Wichita State University Center for Community Support & Research

The WSU Center for Community Support & Research provides learning opportunities for staff within contracted Health Home providers. Here is what's happening:

- The **Health Homes Learning Collaborative** is an opportunity for administrators and managers within contracted Health Home Partner organizations to join with professional associations, Lead Entities and State Program leaders to celebrate successes, conquer challenges and build a quality Health Homes system that improves the lives of the individuals and families it serves. Agency participation is required – see the Health Homes Program Manual for more information.
 - Our February Learning Collaborative in Salina was another success! Providers from across the state had the opportunity to get feedback from their peers regarding a specific challenge they are facing and to learn more about working with members who are experiencing Chronic Pain.
 - Our next webcast is **Tuesday, April 7 at 3:00**. Participants will have the opportunity to learn more about how to implement the Diabetes Self-Management Program offered by the Kansas Foundation for Medical Care. (Only a few slots remain, so please register soon!)
- The **Health Action Plan Learning Series** is an opportunity for Care Coordinators and Social Workers within contracted Health Home Partners to gain tools and resources for writing quality Health Action Plans with their members. Links to recorded versions for three of the webcasts are available now to contracted partners. Feel free to contact CCSR for more information.
- The **Health Action Plan Community of Practice** allows Care Coordinators and Social Workers within contracted Health Home Partners a place to discuss with their peers challenges they face when writing Health Action Plans and strategies to be more effective. Please join us in May for inspiring conversations and practical ideas!

Pre-registration for all events is required and is limited to staff from Health Home Partners who are directly contracted with one or more MCO. Watch for the next quarter schedule of events coming soon! For more information or to add your name to an invitation list, please contact Vanessa Lohf at vanessa.lohf@wichita.edu.

Thanks to Our Health Home Partners!

The State Health Homes team would like to give a big thank you to all of the Health Home Partners who completed the HHP Survey online!

This survey has proved very useful to us and we have already been able to gain important insights due to your responses. We will be sharing some of your feedback regarding how the Health Homes program is working when we visit Health Homes for the Listening Tour this month.

We know that you are all very busy and we truly appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey!



April 7th: World Health Day Brings Attention to Vector-Born Diseases

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) joins the World Health Organization (WHO) and other public health partners in recognizing World Health Day on April 7, 2015, which this year spotlights vector-borne diseases.

Vector-borne diseases are bacteria, viruses, or parasites transmitted to people by mosquitoes, ticks, and fleas.

As warmer weather comes to Kansas, we will begin to see more and more of these potentially harmful insects. We urge you to take precautionary steps to protect yourself from the diseases that fleas, ticks and mosquitos carry.

The pathogens mosquitoes transmit sicken and kill millions of people each year. Mosquitos, together with ticks and fleas, threaten people around the world with diseases that can be debilitating and sometimes fatal.

Vector-borne diseases like

malaria and dengue threaten more than half the world's population. Now, lesser known diseases like chikungunya and Zika are moving into new areas, posing an increasing threat to travelers and introducing diseases into the United States and other areas where they haven't previously been found.

The mosquitoes that spread these viruses have a huge geographic range, including parts of the United States. Though vector-borne diseases have the biggest impact on the world's poorest people, everyone - rich and poor - is at risk for infections. Protect yourself whether abroad or at home:

- **Traveling?** Know your risk. Every year, millions of U.S. residents travel to countries where vector-borne diseases are spread. Many bring these diseases back into the United States. International travelers may face different vector-borne threats than are common in the United States. Learn about

country specific risks and how to stay safe by visiting CDC's Travelers' Health website:

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel>

- **Sick?** If you have a fever, rash, or other symptoms; see your doctor.

- **At home?** Protect yourself and your family from insect and tick bites. Use insect repellents when going outside. Wear protective clothing, including long sleeve shirts and pants. Shower shortly after coming indoors to remove any ticks crawling on you.

To learn more about these diseases and what CDC does to prevent, treat and control them, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/nceid/dv> and <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites>.

Questions?

If you have questions, or would like more information about Health Homes in Kansas, please contact us. Our page on the KanCare website also contains information about the Health Homes project and documents are being updated regularly.

Phone: 785- 296-3981

Email: healthhomes@kdheks.gov

Website: http://www.kancare.ks.gov/health_home.htm

